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After reviewing the history of general sanitation in past centuries, the local history of public health in Pennsylvania is taken up and the author presents a brief sketch of the growth of sanitary administration in the state from the days of William Penn down to the establishment of the State Board of Health in 1885, an event which resulted from the Plymouth epidemic of typhoid fever, where in a small town of 8,000 there were 1,100 cases and 114 deaths, all of which were due to the pollution of the public water supply.

In the third chapter each of the principal functions of a central sanitary authority is separately treated.

In the chapter relating to Vital Statistics the writer points out the proper remedies for perfecting the system of registration: (1) The establishment of health authorities in every town in the state; (2) the establishment of county experts in statistics; (3) the enlistment of the services, either by compulsion or compensation, of every physician, midwife, clergyman, magistrate or undertaker, who may officiate at births, marriages, deaths, burials or attend upon infectious cases; and lastly, the State Board should be given funds sufficient to execute existing laws where local authorities are incompetent.

To these items we would add that much importance may properly be attached to the existence of adequate legal penalties for neglect and refusal to comply with the provisions of such laws as may be enacted, as well as the placing of the enforcement of such laws in the hands of properly qualified magistrates.

The power to abate local nuisances appears to have been conferred upon the State Board of Health of Pennsylvania. This mistaken policy is shown in the fact that the State Board of Health in a single year abated 102 local nuisances. "It must be asserted, however, that the central authority was designed for higher purposes than local scavenging." "As at present acting, our state administration of the elaborate sanitary code has degenerated into mere nuisance abatement. Central control means here local irresponsibility. Our board is discharging the same executive functions as the town constable of the time of Queen Elizabeth."

Those portions of the monograph which relate to local questions are illustrated with several valuable tables, giving the population of different groups of towns, their death-rates, number of nuisances reported, salaries of health officials and facts relating to vaccination.

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Human Nature and the Social Order. By CHARLES HORTON COOLEY. Pp. viii, 413. Price, \$1.50. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

In "Human Nature and the Social Order" Professor Cooley aims to set forth "what the individual is considered as a member of a social whole." Current social theory is wrong in its treatment of the individual for a "separate individual is an abstraction unknown to experience and 'society' and 'individual' do not denote separable phenomena, but are collective and

distributive aspects of the same thing." "Individuality is neither prior in time nor lower in rank than sociality—the line of progress is from a lower to a higher type of both, not from one to the other." Society "in its immediate aspect is a relation among personal ideas." "The imaginations which people have of one another are the *solid facts* of society, and—to observe and interpret these must be the chief aim of sociology." "Self and other do not exist as mutually exclusive social facts." Professor Cooley does not deny personal opposition, but claims that "it does not rest upon any such essential and, as it were material separableness as the common way of thinking implies." "Society is rather a phase of life than a thing by itself; it is life regarded from the point of view of personal intercourse. And personal intercourse may be considered either in its primary aspects, such as are treated in this book, or in secondary aspects, such as groups, institutions or processes. Sociology, I suppose, is the science of these things."

Professor Cooley has been allowed to speak for himself that some idea might be given of his method and manner. His treatment of his subject is entirely from a psychological viewpoint. The style of the book is clear and attractive, the text abounding in happy quotations. In an interesting way the author deals with sympathy, hostility, emulation, leadership, conscience, the meaning of "I," personal degeneracy, freedom.

We are indebted to Professor Cooley for a stimulating and suggestive discussion. The book must be read—and read carefully—to catch its full import. There will be many to object to his classification of sociology as a purely subjective science. In his desire to set forth the psychological elements the author seems to lose touch with the material basis both of individual and social existence. Certainly some of the motive forces do not spring from what we know as the mind. This by no means contradicts the author's claim that "any study of society that is not supported by a firm grasp of personal ideas is empty and dead."

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Studies in the Evolution of Industrial Society. By RICHARD T. ELY, Ph. D., LL. D. Pp. vii, 497. Price, \$1.25 net. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1903.

Professor Ely has done more perhaps than any other economist to popularize the study of economic questions, and in this, his latest addition to the Citizen's Library of Economics, Politics and Sociology, he has not departed from the tradition already established in this direction. In his usual facile style he has made an excursion into that "general borderland where economics, ethics, biology and sociology meet," such as is bound to arouse popular discussion and interest. The fact that nothing new is brought out in the work and that because of its wide scope and consequent brevity but little is conclusive, does not detract from its usefulness.

The book is divided into two parts of unequal length, the first and shorter one serving as an historical sketch of the development of industrial